

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:	) Date: December 15, 2003
Cheryl L. Picoult	) Attorney Docket No.:
Serial No.: 09/649,470	) Customer No.: 00919
Filed: August 28, 2000	) Group Art Unit: 2131
Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned	) Examiner:
Title: System and Method for Verifying Digital Postal Marks	

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.10, I hereby certify that the Information Disclosure Statement with one copy of 29 cited references were deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on December 15, 2003 for delivery by Express Mail. The number of the Express Mail mailing label is EU 475554891 US.

EU 475554891 US

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Malandra, Jr.  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

) Date: December 15, 2003

CHERYL L. PICOULT et al.

) Attorney Docket No.: E-998

Serial No.: 09/649,470

) Customer No.: 00919

Filed: August 28, 2000

) Group Art Unit: 2131

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VERIFYING DIGITAL POSTAL MARKS****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b) exists.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provisions, as identified below with marked boxes, available under 37 CFR § 1.97:

1. ☒ **37 CFR §1.97(b)** - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to one of the following: (i) within 3 months of the filing date of this application (other than a CPA); (ii) within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (iii) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (iv) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

2. ☐ **37 CFR §1.97(c)** - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by the statement or fee as identified below:

2.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

2.2 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

OR

2.3 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 16-1885 in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

**\*\* Provisional Fee Authorization.** If Box 2.1 or Box 2.2 is marked above and a final action under § 1.113 has in fact been mailed before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 16-1885 in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) as if Box 2.3 had been marked.

OR

3. ☐ **37 CFR §1.97(d)** - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and it is accompanied by the statement and fee as identified below:

3.1.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

3.1.2 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

AND

3.2 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 16-1885 in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

**Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1)** - Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

**Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2)** - No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 16-1885.

A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed for use in charging the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Malandra, Jr.

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Attorney of Record

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Shelton, CT 06484-8000

Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
One copy of each of the references

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)				Atty. Docket Number E-998		Serial No. 09/649,470	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Applicant CHERYL L. PICOULT et al.			
				Filing Date August 2000		Group 2131	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4752950	06/21/88	Le Carpentier			
	AB	4873645	10/10/89	Hunter			
	AC	5715164	02/03/98	Liechtl et al.			
	AD	4511793	04/16/85	Racanelli			
	AE	6249777	6/19/01	Kara, et al.			
	AF	6064994	5/16/00	Kubatzki			
	AG	6064995	5/16/00	Sansone, et al.			
	AH	5917925	6/29/99	Moore			
	AI	5936865	8/10/99	Pintsov, et al.			
	AJ	5819239	10/6/98	Berson, et al.			
	AK	5774554	6/30/98	Gilham			
	AL	4641346	02/03/87	Clark et al			
	AM	4649266	03/10/87	Eckert			
	AN	4660221	04/21/87	Dlugos			
	AO	4743747	05/10/88	Fougere et al.			
	AP	4853961	08/01/89	Pastor			
	AQ	5142577	08/25/92	Pastor			
	AR	5216620	06/01/93	Sansone			
	AS	5390251	02/14/95	Pastor et al.			
	AT	5612889	03/18/97	Pintsov et al.			
	AU	5661803	08/26/97	Cordery et al.			
	AV	5666421	09/09/97	Pastor et al.			
	AW	5687237	11/10/97	Naclerio			
	AX	5731574	03/24/98	Bodie et al.			
	AY	5805701	09/06/98	Ryan, Jr.			
	AZ	5812401	09/22/98	Moore			
	BA	5878136	03/02/99	Kim et al.			
	BB	6039257	03/21/00	Berson et al.			
	BC	6125357	09/26/00	Pintsov			

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)		Atty. Docket Number E-998	Serial No. 09/649,470
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Applicant CHERYL L. PICOULT et al.	
		Filing Date August 2000	Group 2131
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)			
	AR	10/9/1 (Item 1 from file: 16) DIALOG (R)File 16:Gale Group PROMT(R) (c) 2002 The Gale Group. All rts. reserv. 03365745 Supplier Number: 44667304 (THIS IS THE FULL TEXT) EXPERTS LOOK TO EXISTING NETWORKS TO INTERCONNECT 'SMART ROADS'	
	AS	Postal Automation Systems, websit: 222.lockheadmartin.com	
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED	
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.			

Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

E-998  
CRM/nmh

Sir:

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the following:



Certificate of Express Mail and Information Disclosure Statement,  
Form PTO-1449 with 1 copy of 29 cited references in Patent  
Application Titled: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VERIFYING  
DIGITAL POSTAL MARKS**, Inventor: **CHERYL PICOULT et al.**,  
S.N.: 09/649,470, Filed: August 28, 2000.

**RECEIVED**

DEC 31

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18233 - MAY 96